

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAR ES 02945 111343Z
ACTION NODS-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9179
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
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S E C R E T DAR ES SALAAM 2945

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

FROM LOW

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1, 2
TAGS: PINT, RH
SUBJ: RHODESIA: MEETING WITH KAUNDA IN LUSAKA

REF: STATE 169971

1. GRAHAM AND I SAW PRESIDENT KAUNDA MONDAY NIGHT. IT WAS A BUSINESSLIKE BUT RELAXED AND FRIENDLY CONVERSATION. WE EXPLAINED THAT WE HAD WANTED TO BRING HIM UP TO DATE ON OUR PROGRESS PRIOR TO HIS TRIP TO KHARTOUM WHERE HE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE MEETING HIS FRONTLINE COLLEAGUES AND THE PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADERS WITH ALL OF WHOM WE WOULD HAVE MET RECENTLY. WE DESCRIBED THE STATE OF AFFAIRS THROUGH OUR MEETINGS IN MAPUTO WITH PRESIDENT SAMORA AND MUGABE, NOTING THAT THOUGH SITHOLE AND MUZOREWA HAD NOT YET AGREED, SMITH WAS WILLING TO COME TO AN ALL PARTIES MEETING PROVIDED IT WAS RESTRICTED AND UNANNOUNCED. HE THOUGHT HE COULD GET THE OTHERS TO COME. HE HAD ALSO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WOULD HAVE
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TO MOVE OFF THE MARCH 3 AGREEMENT AT SUCH A MEETING. WE DESCRIBED MUGABE'S DESIRE TO POSTPONE THE MEETING FOR A WEEK UNTIL AUGUST 5-6 AND HIS PREFERENCE FOR A SITE IN ZAMBIA SUCH AS LUANGWA , (KAUNDA SMILED RESIGNEDLY.) THEN WE TOLD HIM OF NKOMO'S REACTION TO THE PROPOSAL.

2. KAUNDA SAID HE COULD UNDERSTAND NKOMO'S CONCERN THAT THE MEETING BE A SUCCESS. IT WOULD BE TERRIBLE FOR THIS ATTEMPT TO FAIL. NEVERTHELESS, HE FELT IT IMPORTANT TO PRESS AHEAD AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. WE AGREED ON THE NEED FOR BOTH SPEED AND CAREFUL PREPARATION AND SAID WE WOULD RETURN TO SALISBURY FROM DAR TO BEGIN GETTING INTO THE SUBSTANCE OF HOW THE SALISBURY GROUP MIGHT MODIFY ITS POSITION TO MEET THE PRINCIPALS OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN AGREEMENT.

3. KAUNDA ASKED WHETHER PRESIDENT SAMORA HAD AGREED TO COME TO THE MEETING. WE EXPLAINED THAT AT THAT POINT WE HAD BEEN CONSIDERING TULI LODGE IN BOTSWANA WHICH WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN LARGE ENOUGH FOR OBSERVERS. MACHEL HAD SUPPORTED THIS LOCATION. KAUNDA THOUGHT IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT THAT THE PRESIDENTS BE MEETING SOMEWHERE CLOSE BY TO MONITOR PROGRESS. THEY COULD EXERT AN IMPORTANT INFLUENCE ON THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AS THEY HAD ON NUJOMA AND SWAPO IN LUANDA. (HE EXPRESSED RENEWED HOPES FOR THE CURRENT TALKS IN LUANDA.) WE SAID WE COULD SEE THE ADVANTAGES OF THAT, THOUGH SMITH MIGHT CONSIDER IT AS A THREAT. GRAHAM NOTED THAT A SIMULTANEOUS FRONTLINE MEETING IN LUSAKA MIGHT SERVE AS A COVER FOR OUR MEETING AT LUANGWA.

4. KAUNDA CHECKED HIS CALENDAR FOR AUGUST 5-6
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SAYING HE THOUGHT WE SHOULD NOT PRESS FOR AN EARLIER DATE IF MUGABE WANTED TO GO TO BELGRADE. NOTING THERE WAS A UNIP NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING, HE TOLD PUNABANTU (THE ONLY OTHER PERSON PRESENT) THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE MOVED A FEW DAYS. WE SUGGESTED THAT AFTER HE HAD DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH HIS FRONTLINE COLLEAGUES, NKOMO AND MUGABE IN KHARTOUM, WE CONSULT AGAIN. WE ALSO MENTIONED OUR HOPE THAT WHATEVER WAS DONE AT KHARTOUM BY THE OAU NOT APPEAR TO REJECT FUTURE COOPERATION WITH SITHOLE AND MUZOREWA OUTSIDE THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT AND NOTED THAT POSITIVE MENTION OF THE AAP AND ALL PARTIES MEETING COULD BE HELPFUL.

5. COMMENT: THERE WAS A CLEAR MUTUALITY OF CONCERN BETWEEN US OVER THE NEED TO BALANCE THE IMPORTANCE OF MOVING AHEAD AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE TOWARDS A MEETING ON THE ONE HAND WITH THE NEED FOR ADEQUATE PREPARATION TO SEE THAT IT SUCCEEDS ON THE OTHER. WE DID NOT PRESS KAUNDA SINCE HE IS AS SENSITIVE TO BOTH PROBLEMS AS WE. AS A RESULT I THINK HE ACCEPTED OUR COMMON PURPOSE TO GET ON WITH A

SETTLEMENT AND HIS PRESENT MOOD IS TO COOPERATE
BOTH ON MECHANICS AND FUTURE CONSULTATIONS.
WPAIN

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NNN

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